

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of transmitting QAM-16 modulated digital signals in which each of sixteen states represents a symbol with four bits and is represented in a complex plane by a point with particular coordinates. In each quadrant of the complex plane, four points represent four numbers each of four bits, in which numbers the last two bits are the same and the first two bits represent numbers that are all different. The numbers are divided into four subsets over the whole of the complex plane. Each subset is formed by the set of numbers having the same first two bits, so that the numbers are therefore in the four different quadrants. The coordinates of the symbols in the complex plane are chosen so that each subset takes the place of another subset after a rotation of $\pm K\pi/2$, where K is an integer.